AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for discharging current from a gas diffusion electrode in an electrolytic unit cell including a gas chamber comprising the steps of:

electrically connecting the gas diffusion electrode to a wall surface of the gas chamber having conductivity in the electrolytic unit cell through an electric connecting element in partial contact with the gas diffusion electrode with a contact surface pressure between 5 kPa and 20 kPa both inclusive per unit area; and

discharging the current from the gas diffusion electrode.

2. (original): The method for discharging the current as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gas diffusion electrode is fixed to the electric connecting element by using an alkali-proof glue.

3. (original): The method for discharging the current as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrolytic unit cell is divided into three chambers including an anode chamber, a cathode liquid chamber and a cathode gas chamber, and a liquid-permeable and alkali-proof filling material is filled in the cathode liquid chamber to press the gas diffusion electrode toward the electric connecting element such that the gas diffusion electrode is in electric contact with the electric connecting element.

4. (original): The method for discharging the current as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrolytic unit cell is divided into three chambers including an anode chamber, a cathode liquid chamber and a cathode gas chamber, and the gas diffusion electrode is pressed toward the electric connecting element by means of a liquid pressure in the cathode liquid chamber such that the gas diffusion electrode is in electric contact with the electric connecting element.

5. (original): The method for discharging the current as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrolytic unit cell is divided into two chambers including an anode chamber and a cathode chamber separated by using a diaphragm, and a liquid-permeable filling material is filled in the anode chamber to press the gas diffusion electrode toward the electric connecting element through the diaphragm such that the gas diffusion electrode is in electric contact with the electric connecting element.